

Message Text

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ACTION SP-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-07 L-03 RSC-01 DRC-01

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P 061400Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8000

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 6703

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XM, US, AR

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS AMONG POLICY PLANNING STAFFS

REF STATE 192211

1. EMBASSY FULLY ENDORSES EXCELLENT SUGGESTION THAT CONSULTATIONS BE UNDERTAKEN BETWEEN SENIOR MEMBERS S/P STAFF AND ARGENTINE COUNTERPARTS. WE BELIEVE SUCH CONSULTATIONS IN ADDITION TO HELPING CLARIFY OUR RESPECTIVE VIEWS ON MATTERS OF MULTILATERAL AND HEMISPHERE ISSUES WILL ALSO BE EXTREMELY BENEFICIAL FOR OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS.

2. ARGENTINE OFFICIALS WHO MOST CLOSELY RESEMBLE S/P IN TERMS OF FUNCTION ARE: FOREIGN MINISTRY--DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR FOREIGN POLICY, AMBASSADOR FRANCISCO MOLINA SALAS; ECONOMIC MINISTRY--SECRETARY FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, AMBASSADOR LEOPOLDO TETTAMANTI. THESE TWO OFFICIALS HAVE KEY ROLES IN FOREIGN POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC MATTERS INVOLVING ARGENTINA. EMBASSY HAS FOUND BOTH MEN AND THEIR STAFFS TO BE EXTREMELY WELL INFORMED, WITH A PREFERENCE FOR DISCUSSING SPECIFIC ISSUES IN THEIR BROAD POLITICAL AND INTELLECTUAL CONTEXTS. THUS WE BELIEVE THEY WILL BE RECEPTIVE TO APPROACH OUTLINED IN YOUR CABLE.

3. DURING VISIT OF LOS TEAM EARLIER IN YEAR, AND RECENT VISIT BY DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY BLAKE, EMBASSY WAS IMPRESSED BY EXTENT TO WHICH GOA OFFICIALS PREPARED FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH THEIR AMERICAN COUNTERPARTS AND THEIR WILLINGNESS TO ENGAGE
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IN CANDID AND FREE-WHEELING EXCHANGES. (S/P PERSONNEL WHO MAKE TRIP MIGHT WISH TO CONSULT WITH AMBASSADOR BLAKE, WHO RECENTLY

MET WITH MOLINA SALAS, FOR HIS IMPRESSIONS.)

4. SETTING UP THE MEETINGS WILL POSE TWO PROBLEMS. FIRST, BOTH MOLINA SALAS AND TETTAMANTI HAVE OPERATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES IN ADDITION TO THEIR PLANNING FUNCTIONS AND IT WOULD BE UNREALISTIC TO EXPECT THEM TO DEVOTE FULL WORKING DAY TO DISCUSSIONS. SECONDLY, THEY ARE IN MINISTRIES WHICH IN ADDITION TO HAVING INSTITUTIONAL CONFLICTS ARE HEADED BY PRINCIPALS WHO ARE RIVALS WITHIN CABINET. EMBASSY THEREFORE SUGGESTS FOLLOWING SCENARIO: A MORNING POLITICAL SESSION OF SOME TWO HOURS WITH AMBASSADOR MOLINA SALAS AND APPROPRIATE MEMBERS OF HIS STAFF (INCLUDING FRANCISCO

JOSE PULIT, CHIEF OF LATIN AMERICAN DEPARTMENT; AMBASSADOR FERNANDO FERNANDEZ ESCALANTE, CHIEF OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, AND AMBASSADOR RAUL CARLOS DESMARAS LUZURIAGA, DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR PLANNING--WHO DESPITE TITLE IS NOT CENTRAL FIGURE IN GOA POLICY FORMULATION). A SECOND MORNING SESSION (THE TWO MIGHT BE CONDUCTED SIMULTANEOUSLY) WHICH WOULD FOCUS ON ECONOMIC MATTERS. THIS SECOND SESSION WOULD BE WITH AMBASSADOR TETTAMANTI AND ORLANDO D'ADAMO, SECRETARY OF PROGRAMMING AND COORDINATION, REPRESENTING THE ECONOMY MINISTRY, AND AMBASSADOR CONRADO C. BECKMANN REPRESENTING THE DIVISION OF FOREIGN ECONOMIC RELATIONS OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS PLUS APPROPRIATE MEMBERS OF THEIR STAFFS (INCLUDING JUAN FIGUERERO, SECRETARY PRO TEM OF MF; CARLOS R.G. LEYVA, SUB-SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE MINISTRY, AND MIGUEL ANGEL CUERVO, DIRECTOR GENERAL, FOREIGN ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL POLICY). IT WILL BE USEFUL, WE BELIEVE, TO INCLUDE OFFICIALS (SUCH AS JUAN FIGUERERO) WHO, ALTHOUGH SENIOR, ARE LESS SUBJECT TO POLITICAL CHANGE THAN THE TOP-RANKING OFFICIALS AND MAY BE EXPECTED TO CONTINUE IN PLANNING ACTIVITIES OVER THE LONG RUN.

5. FOLLOWING THE MORNING SESSION A WORKING LUNCH WILL BE HOSTED BY (DEPENDING ON TIMING) THE AMASSADOR OR THE DCM. S/P DEL AND SENIOR STAFFS OF ARGENTINE PRINCIPALS COULD THEN HAVE AFTERNOON SESSION EITHER TO EXPAND UPON TOPICS OF MORNING SESSION OR TO RAISE NEW ONES.

6. IN BOTH MEETINGS WE SEEK A DISCUSSION AND TRENDS THAT BOTH
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SIDES FEEL WILL SHAPE OUR FUTURE RELATIONSHIP, E.G., TRADE POLICY, THE RELATION OF THE RICH NATIONS TO THE POOR ONES, WORLD FOOD POLICY, ENERGY, ETC. UNDER THESE BROAD HEADINGS WE COULD EXPLORE THE ARGENTINE ATTITUDE TOWARD THE GENEVA MTN NEGOTIATIONS, THE ROLE OF THE GROUP OF 77, AND THEIR VIEWS ON POSSIBILITIES FOR US-GOA ECONOMIC COOPERATION. FOOD POLICY IS OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO GOA. AS A MAJOR PRODUCER, IT HAS VITAL STAKE (AND PERHAPS COMMON INTERESTS WITH US) IN HOW INTERNATIONAL EMERGENCY RELIEF EFFORTS TO AVOID HUNGER AFFECT INTERESTS OF PRODUCER NATIONS. THE EXPANSION OF ARGENTINA'S NUCLEAR ENERGY PROGRAMS INSURE

GREAT GOA INTEREST IN NPT AND SAFEGUARDS ISSUES. THE ACTIVITIES OF US CORPORATIONS ABROAD AND US VIEWS ON ITS RESPONSIBILITIES TOWARD THEM IS ALSO OF GREAT INTEREST. FINALLY, EVOLVING HEMISPHERE POLICY TOWARD CUBA IS SURE TO BE ON MIND OF GOA PLANNERS.

7. BOTH TETTAMANTI AND MOLINA SALAS HAVE EXPRESSED CONVICTION TO EMBOFFS THAT MOST SERIOUS AND PRESSING ISSUES, SUCH AS FOOD SUPPLY, MONETARY POLICY, TRANSFER OF RESOURCES, CANNOT BE SOLVED USING PRESENT STRUCTURES OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. HENCE, ANOTHER ITEM ON AGENDA SHOULD BE FUTURE ROLE OF OAS AND UN AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL STRUCTURES IN A PERIOD OF CHANGE. S/P OFFICIALS MIGHT PROBE FOR OUTLINES OF STRUCTURES TWO MEN ENVISAGE TO REPLACE OLD ONES.

8. SOME DATE IN OCTOBER WOULD APPEAR REASONABLE TO EMBASSY. AMBASSADOR HILL, HOWEVER, WILL BE AWAY FROM POST OCT 11-16. HOPEFULLY VISIT CAN BE SCHEDULED BEFORE OR AFTER THESE DATES. HILL

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